

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/621,677

Examiner

TAN X. DINH

Applicant(s)

CHEN ET AL.

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/23/01.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

TAN Xuan DINH
Primary Examiner
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1) The amendment filed 11/23/2006 is acknowledged. New claim 6 has been added.

2) Claims 1-6 are allowed.

The apparatus for detecting an external optical disk drive's open/closed status, comprising an upper housing a cover disposed above the upper housing wherein a convex portion is disposed at the front edge of cover with a hook hole therein, a solenoid valve sub-assembly, fixed under the bottom face of the upper housing, a solenoid valve base includes a body, a connection part disposed on a side of the body and a spring support disposed on the other side of the body, wherein a space is located between the connection part and the spring support, a solenoid valve fixed at the bottom of the solenoid valve base, a hook device engaged with the connection part of the solenoid valve base, a torsion spring, disposed at the spring support of the solenoid valve base, an elastic plate, disposed within the space of the solenoid valve base, a lower housing, with a motherboard disposed thereon, combined in assembly with the upper housing to contain and protect the motherboard and the solenoid sub-assembly therein, and two wires wherein one end of each wire is connected to the torsion spring and the elastic plate respectively and the other end is electrically connected to the

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motherboard, wherein, when the cover is closed, the convex portion located at the front edge of the cover presses on the torsion spring, and the torsion spring contacts the elastic plate, resulting in an electrically conductive state, when the cover is opened, the torsion spring is released and the torsion spring disengages from the elastic plate disconnecting the circuit, as recited in the independent claims, are not found or suggested in the prior art of record.

3) The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

4) Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TAN XUAN DINH whose telephone number is (571)272-7586. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY to FRIDAY from 8:00AM to 5:30PM.

The FAX phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more

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information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov/>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



**TAN DINH
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

January 11, 2007